PRESS RELEASE

House Committee on the Budget John R. Kasich, Chairman

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Statement by House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich: On the big issues, the president stays in the dugout.

The president has presented the American people with a fantasy budget. Much of it is just a rehash of previous proposals that have already been rejected. On the big issues, he's done nothing.

The president is proposing a net tax increase in the first year of the budget, something Congress simply isn't going to approve. It's a non-starter.

He does deserve points for not spending the Social Security surplus, something we fought long and hard over last year. We're happy he's finally caught up with us.

But he's done nothing to address the long-term problems facing both Social Security and Medicare. He could have used some of his political capital to develop a solid Social Security proposal, but he chose to do nothing.

I've always said when you've got one chance to bat in Yankee Stadium, you swing for the fences. As far as Social Security and Medicare are concerned, the president has decided to stay in the dugout.

While we're willing to work with anyone who wants to cut taxes, pay down more debt and put together real solutions for the long-term problems facing the baby boomers and their children, this budget is nothing more than a fantasy. It's going nowhere.